Serial No. 10/584,393 Docket No. 1004451.001US

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

- (Currently amended) A method for a high sensitivity multiple microorganism detection
 which is a method for detecting two or more microorganisms in foods having different
 properties by culturing the microorganisms in a medium with glucose concentration of
 0.15% or less, and/or in a medium with concentration of phosphate-buffer solution of 50
 mM or more or in a medium with a buffer ability capacity equivalent to the similar as that
 with concentration of phosphate-buffer solution of 50 mM or more, amplifying a plurality
 of target genes with a single PCR reaction tube and analyzing the same, comprising the
 following steps:
 - (A) a step for extracting DNA of the target microorganisms to be detected, by treating at least with a lytic enzyme and/or bacteriocin having lytic activity, a <u>nonionic</u> surfactant and a protein denaturant; and
 - (B) a step for performing Multiplex PCR by mixing a primer specific to the target microorganisms to be detected,
 - wherein, at least one of the two or more microorganisms with different properties is Listeria monocytogenes.
- (Original) The method of multiple microorganism detection according to claim 1, wherein a step to culture microorganisms under a culture condition where 1 CFU/100 g microorganisms become 10³ CFU/ml or more after 24 h of culture, is included prior to the step of extracting DNA of the target microorganisms to be detected.
- (Cancelled)

Serial No. 10/584,393 Docket No. 1004451.001US

 (Currently amended) The method of multiple microorganism detection according to claim [[3]] 1 or 2, wherein the specific primer is a primer consisting of base sequences shown by SEO ID Nos: 5 and 6.

- (Withdrawn) The method of multiple microorganism detection according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the two or more microorganisms with different properties comprise pathogenic Escherichia coli O157.
- (Withdrawn) The method of multiple microorganism detection according to claim 5, wherein the specific primer is a primer consisting of base sequences shown by SEQ ID Nos: 1 and 2, or SEQ ID Nos: 7 and 8.
- (Withdrawn) The method of multiple microorganism detection according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the two or more microorganisms with different properties comprise Salmonella spp.
- (Withdrawn) The method of multiple microorganism detection according to claim 7, wherein the specific primer is a primer consisting of base sequences shown by SEQ ID Nos: 3 and 4, or SEQ ID Nos: 9 and 10.
- (Previously presented) The method of multiple microorganism detection according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the microorganisms are cultured in a culture condition where the pH after culture becomes 5.1 or more.
- 10. (Cancelled)
- 11. (Currently amended) The method of multiple microorganism detection according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the extraction is performed after treating with a lytic enzyme and/or bacteriocin having a lytic activity, further treating with a <u>nonionic</u> surfactant and a protein denaturant, removing insoluble fractions by centrifugation, and by depositing DNA by alcohol precipitation.
- (Previously presented) The method of multiple microorganism detection according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the lytic enzyme is Achromopeptidase and/or lysozyme.

Serial No. 10/584,393 Docket No. 1004451.001US

 (Currently amended) The method of multiple microorganism detection according to claim 1 or 2, wherein bacteriocin having lytic activity is Enterolysine Enterolysin.

- 14. (Currently amended) The method of multiple microorganism detection according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the <u>nonionic</u> surfactant is ethyleneoxide condensate of sorbitan monolaurate.
- 15. (Previously presented) The method of multiple microorganism detection according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the protein denaturant is Guanidine isothiocyanate.
- 16. (Withdrawn) The method of multiple microorganism detection according to claim 1 or 2, wherein Multiplex PCR is performed by combining DNA consisting of base sequences shown by SEQ ID NOs: 1 to 6 at a total concentration of 750 nM or less as a primer.
- 17. (Withdrawn) The method of multiple microorganism detection according to claim 1 or 2, wherein Multiplex PCR is performed by combining DNA consisting of base sequences shown by SEQ ID NOs: 5 to 10 at a total concentration of 750 nM or less as a primer.
- 18. (Previously presented) The method of multiple microorganism detection according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the food is edible meat or processed meat product.